REMARKS

The allowability of claims 3 - 9 is acknowledged appreciatively.

The allowability of the other claims as well upon allowance of generic claim 1 is retained by traversing the sole remaining rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 103 for obviousness from the cited Messner '595 and Gentile, et al patents.

The traversal is supported by editing claim 1 without narrowing so that no Festo-like limitations should arise even though such editing is in response to a statutory rejection.

The Action courteously provides a sketch based on Fig. 1of the Messner '595 patent which labels a spiral (pressing) spring and control rod. As claimed in claim 1, the spiral pressing spring and control have longitudinal axes, and so do the spiral spring and control rod labeled in the sketch where they are shown with vertical lines.

Fig. 13 of the application shows corresponding vertical lines 71 and 91 that represent longitudinal axes of the control rod and (spiral) pressing spring. These are described at page 18, lines 17ff, of the specification.

The longitudinal center axis 71 of the control rod 58 and the longitudinal center axis 91 of the pressing spring intersect the partition line 91. It thus can be seen clearly, that these two longitudinal center axes 71 and 91 define a geometrical plane which is identified by the reference numeral 93.

This geometrical plane 93 that is claimed in the last paragraph of claim 1 is thus seen to be parallel to the plane of the paper of the sketch in the Action and, as further in claim 1, must coincide with "... a plane of symmetry extending perpendicularly to said longitudinal center axis ..." of the first feeding roller, such coincidence being described for the claimed invention in the first paragraph on page 19 of the specification.

The first feeding roller is the roller on the rocker 3a and, therefore, the pressing roller 3 shown in the sketch in the Action. The sketch in the Action further shows by dotted lines that the pivot arm 14 is behind the portion of the rocker shown, as is the control rod. Turning then to Fig. 2 of the '595 Messner patent from Fig. 1 of which the Action takes the sketch, it will be seen that the control rod has to be on the left side of the rocker 3a where the pivot arm 14 is shown. A plane of symmetry of the first feeding roller 3 that is perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the feeding roller 3 is, however, in the middle of Fig. 2 of the patent. Such plane of symmetry could not coincide, as claimed, with a plane defined in part on the left side of Fig. 2 of the patent.

The basis of the rejection from the combination of patents traversing pages 3 and 4 of the action with specific reference to the sketch ("see below") describes instead why the patents do not teach toward the claimed invention.

Reconsideration and allowance are, therefore, requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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